



*Whoever does the  
will of God is my  
brother and sister  
and mother.*

Mark 3:35, NRSV

If listening from your car,  
please tune your car radio to 101.3 FM

**Sunday, June 6, 2021**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Roy Rogers**

**Organist: Polly Jeanty**

### **Bethlehem Safe Indoor Worship Guidelines**

- Everyone 5 years and older will wear a mask (even if you are fully vaccinated)
- Remain 6 feet apart from members outside of your family
- Ushers will guide you to your seat
- The congregation will refrain from singing (Humming is permitted)
- An offering plate will be available in a central location
- For those who wish to congregate, you are asked to do so outside
- Please stay home if you or a member of your family is not feeling well.
- Scrip will be available for purchase on the first and third Sundays. We ask that when purchasing scrip cards that only one person be at the scrip table at a time.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: It is not difficult to be God's beloved child.

P: **We are called to obey God's commandments and live in God's love!**

L: The ways which God ordains are ways of peace and hope.

P: **The love of God shall conquer the world.**

L: Rejoice, O people of God, for God is near!

P: **Praise God for God's power and might, God's love and peace. AMEN.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**As we gather here in the harbor of your safety We thank you for fellowship and family. We ask that you will strengthen us, restore us and inspire us with your love. Lord, would you fill us with your peace So that as we journey onwards We would pour out your love and grace to others. We ask that our souls would catch the wind of your spirit so that we would take your promises to all the earth. Amen.** (an opening prayer from [www.lords-prayer-words.com](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com))

**SONG #497**

**“Blest be the Tie that Binds” (no singing, please)**

**READING OF SCRIPTURE**

**Mark 3:20-35**

and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, ‘He has gone out of his mind.’ And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, ‘He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.’ And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, ‘How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

‘Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin’ — for they had said, ‘He has an unclean spirit.’

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.’ And he replied, ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.

SERMON

“Spirit the Thicker Than Blood”

SONG #290

“Oh, Perfect Love”

(no singing, please)

PASTORAL PRAYER... THE LORD’S PRAYER

Holy and just God, we thank you for the great gift of this church community and all the people who have been touched by your grace here. Keep us from pure self-serving behavior and stir us to serve people who are most in need of your mercy inside and outside these walls. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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For your blessings upon this assembly, that it continue to dream dreams, sing songs to you, and be a sign of your living presence in our community and world, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

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Bless our congregation as it embarks on an important future, a post covid-19 future of continued worship in our sanctuary and outreach to our neighborhoods and community. Help us to make the right decisions, so that our parish may be a font of life for many generations to come. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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We pray for our elected consistory leaders: bless their lives and their service; energize their souls and minds. Grant them the desire to grow in faith and inspire others and fulfill the call you have for them all. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

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O God, challenge and strengthen our faith. Weed out what is soft and shallow; grow in us faith rich in nutrients, resistant to periods of drought and pests— faith that bears fruit in good times and in bad times.

Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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Lord we thank you for this church, built through the sacrifices of our ancestors in faith. May our worship be genuine and sincere; may the ministries that flow out of this place lift up people in the name of Christ. And despite all our efforts, may we never forget that we are saved by your grace alone and are all debtors to you.

Lord, in your mercy,  
**C hear our prayer.**

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Gracious God, we thank you this morning for the gift of this church community and all the people who are active here in various ministries and roles, giving of their time, talent and treasure. Bless them in their efforts whether or not they go as expected. Together we pray:

**C Thanks be to God.**

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Lord, we remember all the treasures that have been given to us: our families, our closest friends and neighbors, our spiritual family and the wealth of this land that provides for our needs. Together we thank you, o Lord.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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Lord, we remember those who have walked the journey of life before us. We remember how they influenced our lives, shaped our character and enabled us to become the people we are. Together we thank you for their presence in our lives.

**C Your mercy is great.** (silence)

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In thanksgiving for new children born and for those who may be becoming members of this church, and in deep gratitude for those who have died. let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

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Lord, we ask you to bless with your healing presence in many and various ways those who are sick and home bound especially ..... Together we lift them up in prayer to you, O Lord.

**C Your mercy is great.**

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For all these petitions and others that are on our hearts and minds at this time, we lift them up to you even as we pray the prayer you taught us. "Our Father..."

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## THE LORD' SUPPER

UNBOLD: Leader    **BOLD: All**

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### INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
    who earnestly repent of their sin and  
    seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

### CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
    we have broken your law,  
    we have rebelled against your love,  
    we have not loved our neighbors,  
    and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.    Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
    that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**  
**Glory to God. Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, ...we praise your name and join their  
unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you and blessed is your Son...

as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here... with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### DISTRIBUTION

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION Based on 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13**

### POSTLUDE

### Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys: Returning to church!

### Families who have lost loved ones:

Carol Meiselwitz

### Those struggling with health issues:

Mother of Dawn Wirtz

Karl (nephew of Will and Lora)

Mike Mathes

Tom Brickbauer

Macullen Schnell

Father of Alicia Braun (former member)

Jane Markelz

Dale Horneck

Olivia Marie

Jessica Horneck

Those unable to worship with us: Merlin and Doris Mae Nimmer

**Other concerns:**

The people of India

Violence in the Middle East

Division in the U.S.

Racial Justice and equality in our country

Health Care workers

Those whose businesses are struggling

Those who are out of work

People who live where violence and injustice prevails.

*2021 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members*

Elder/President - Steve Voland (920)286-0162 or [svoland44@gmail.com](mailto:svoland44@gmail.com)

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or [trabefamily5@gmail.com](mailto:trabefamily5@gmail.com)

**Elder – Open Position – Prayerfully consider serving your Bethlehem family**

Deacon - Ross Westphalen (920)629-0193 [rossw@forhealthycows.com](mailto:rossw@forhealthycows.com)

Deacon/Secretary – Kathy Bowe (920)894-7243 [LandKBowe@outlook.com](mailto:LandKBowe@outlook.com)

Financial Secretary - Ruthie Rumpff (920)946-5849 [srumpff@tm.net](mailto:srumpff@tm.net)

Treasurer - Jane Umland (920)286-2175 [jm59umland@gmail.com](mailto:jm59umland@gmail.com)

**BETHLEHEM ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Plan a visit to our homebound members!** Merlin and Doris Mae Nimmer are at Field of Dreams in Kiel (286-6189) Call to arrange a visit.

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 6/6:** 9:30a In-person worship w/ Communion (please adhere to the guidelines that were sent in a recent letter) *Happy Birthday Gene Radder and Keatyn Suttner! Happy Anniversary Jesse & Jenna Rumpff*

**Monday 6/7:**

**Tuesday 6/8:** 6:30pm Consistory; *Happy Birthday Ginny Schultz!*

**Wednesday 6/9:**

**Thursday 6/10:**

**Friday 6/11:** *Happy Birthday Melissa Koppenhaver!*

**Saturday 6/12:**

**Sunday 6/13:** 9:30a In-person worship (please adhere to the guidelines that were sent in a recent letter) *Happy Birthday Julie Mueller and Kate Wilharms!*

**Pantry item: Tube of Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant or Lotion**

## **2021 BUCC Graduates**

Ryan Freund	Kiel High School (attending UW-Platteville)
Ryan Jeanty	Kiel High School (attending UW-Platteville)
Brenna Koppenhaver	Kiel High School (attending Edgewood College)
Mason Lewis	Kiel High School (attending UW Oshkosh)
Jacob Vogel	Kiel High School (attending N.E. Technical College)
Noah Watson	Kiel High School (attending UW Stevens Point)
Kate Wilharms	Kiel High School (plans unknown)

Julia Gabrielse graduated in December from UW-Stout with a Bachelor's degree in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management. She earned minors in Communications and Business Management.

Steve Deignan's niece, Lexie graduated from Metropolitan State University of Denver with a Masters Degree in Social Work. She is a 2017 graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Development and Family Studies.